

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Hall W21255

Ann (Anna) Hall

f34SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/27/10 rev'd 6/27/18

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

The Declaration of Mrs. Ann Hall widow of William Hall, who as a Captain in the Naval Service in the War of the Revolution, made to obtain a Pension under the Act of 4th of July 1836—

This deponent being sworn according to law, saith that she is now in her 76th year, That she was born on the 8th day of February 1763 – and that her maiden name was Ann Wilson. This deponent says that she is the widow of William Hall deceased who was a Captain in the Navy in the war of the Revolution. That she became acquainted with the said Captain Hall in the early part of the year 1782 in the City of Philadelphia. The said Captain Hall had been a Prisoner of War in Charleston, and was sent to St. Augustine, and then sent to Philadelphia for an exchange, during his abode in Philadelphia Deponent was married to the said William Hall, to wit, on the 23rd day of April in the year 1782. That they left Philadelphia after this in a cartel, in the fall of 1782, which cartel was commanded by her husband the said William Hall, and arrived in Savannah in November 1782 – Charleston was still in the possession of the British, but was expected soon to be evacuated. The said William Hall and Deponent his wife reached Charleston two or three weeks after the Evacuation. After the Evacuation of Charleston Captain Hall remained in Charleston but deponent is unable to say what was his engagements or services, and that he entered into the merchants service after Peace was declared between the two Countries. Deponent says that her husband the said Captain Hall departed this life in May 1814 at the High Hills of Santee, about 100 miles from Charleston where he had gone on a visit of health. That she has remained a widow ever since, and has always resided in Charleston from the time she came to it. Deponent annexes her Original Certificate of Marriage.

S/ Ann Hall



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Declaration

In order to obtain the Benefit of the Act of Congress of the 7th of July 1838 Entitled "An act granting half pay and pensions to certain Widows"
The State of South Carolina District of Charleston

On this 7th day of August in the year of our Lord 1838 personally appeared before the Honorable Jacob Axson Judge of the City Court of Charleston, Mrs. Ann Hall a resident of the said City of Charleston, aged seventy-five years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the act of Congress passed July 7th, 1838 Entitled "An Act Granting half pay and

Pensions to certain Widows". That she is the widow of William Hall who was a Captain in the Navy of South Carolina in the War of the Revolution. That her Husband the said William Hall was the commander of the State Brig of War called the *Notre Dame*, that he was in service as the Commander of said Brig of War from the year 1779 up to the time when Charleston surrendered to the British. That her husband the said William Hall, after the fall of Charleston was among those persons who were sent prisoners to St. Augustine, from Saint Augustine he was sent to Philadelphia on parole where this Deponent became acquainted with him. She further declares that she was married to the said William Hall in the City of Philadelphia on the 23rd day of April in the year of our Lord 1782 as will appear by her marriage certificate now on file at the Pension Office in these city of Washington. That her Husband the aforesaid William Hall died in May 1814 at the High Hills of Santee in this State. That she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the first of January 1794 viz. the time above stated (23rd of April 1782). This Deponent in swearing that her marriage with Captain Hall took place prior to his leaving the service, begs to be understood as saying that Captain Hall was not in actual naval service at the time she married him, nor does she know of any naval service performed by him after marriage. The only saw him does remember to have been performed by her husband was the cartel service mentioned in her former declaration.

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year above written before

S/ Jacob Axson,

Ann Hall

the Recorder of the City

[p 5: newspaper obituary¹ of Capt. Wm Hall]

“Died, at the High Hills of Santee, on Monday, the 2nd Inst. Captain William Hall, aged about 57 years. Another of those characters, who were conspicuous in our Revolutionary struggle, and from whom we derived our Independence, as a free people, has descended to the silent tomb. At the commencement of our resistance to British usurpation, the subject of this notice was detained in England, from whence he made his escape and arrived in Boston, where he immediately entered on board an American privateer called *The True Blue*, commissioned as Second Lieutenant; during several cruises, the privateer was successful and considerably annoyed the enemy. He then came to his native city where he received a proper and honorable call in the service of his country – On the second day after his arrival, he was commissioned as Lieutenant on board the *Notre Dame*, a brig of war in the service of the State, carrying 18 six-pounders; she was quickly dispatched for sea, and in a few days after leaving court, fell in with a British brig of 16 guns, which, after an action of 25 minutes, struck to the *Notre Dame* – she proved to be a valuable prize, being loaded with Dry Goods. Lieutenant Hall was put on board the brig as Prize-Master, and after escaping from the *Daphne* frigate, in a lengthy chase, arrived safe in Georgetown. Captain Seymore, who then commanded the *Notre Dame*, resigned, and the command was given to Lieutenant Hall, who at the time was but twenty years of age. Early in 1778, the *Notre Dame*, Captain Hall, was ordered to join the squadron which sailed from this port, under command of Captain Biddle, in the *Randolph* frigate of 36 gun; together with the ship *General Moultrie*, 20 guns, Captain Sullivan; the brig *Polly*, Captain Anthony; and the brig *Fair American*, Captain Morgan – During the cruise, they fell in with the *Yarmouth*, 64 gun ship, which Captain Biddle engaged; and whilst the different vessels were bearing down to the

¹ Unfortunately, there is no indication in the file as to the date of publication of this obituary or the newspaper in which it appeared. By doing some research on the Internet, I found a reference to this obituary abstracted in the Essex Massachusetts newspaper dated June, 1814.

respective stations assigned to them, the *Randolph* blew up; they were obliged to separate and make every effort to escape from superior force – the situation of the *Notre Dame* was particularly exposed and dangerous being under the stern of the enemy, and required the exercise of much prudence and skill to avoid capture, or destruction from the combustible matter which fell on board, and the severe fire to which he was exposed. The *Notre Dame* was chased for several hours. After having escaped from the enemy, she continued her cruise and captured 11 Prizes, three of which were of a Jamaica fleet under convoy; one of the prizes was a ship of 20 guns, captured near the Isle of Pine – carried by boarding; three of the prizes arrived safe; the rest were retaken. Captain Hall was employed in the expedition to retake Savannah, at that time in action of British troops, and took an active and conspicuous part in landing the troops from the French fleet under Count D'Estaing. He was in this city when it capitulated to the British, and of course was made a prisoner; whilst in that character and on parole, he was, with upwards of sixty others, sent to St. Augustine as hostages, where he remained until regularly and exchanged. After the conclusion of the war, Captain H. entered into the Merchants' service, and commanded several vessels out of this court. By his industry and assiduity, in a few years, he acquired an independent fortune, and retired from the sea to enjoy the fruits of his laborious profession. Since his residence on shore, he discharge, with fidelity, every public duty to which he was called – He served many years as one of the Wardens of this City, and as Commissioner in different institutions under the Corporation. He has left a Widow, Brother, and Sisters, to lament his loss.”

Declaration of Joseph Righton² a revolutionary Pensioner of the United States Taken to prove the revolutionary Services of William Hall who was a Captain in the Naval Service in the War of the Revolution –

This Deponent being sworn in due form of law deposes, That he was well acquainted with Captain William Hall who was in the Naval Service during the Revolutionary War. The said William Hall bore a Lieutenant's commission on board the *Notre Dame* a State Brig of War carrying 16 or 18 guns in the early part of the year 1777, that he performed considerable service on board the said Brig, and in the latter part of said year or the beginning of 1778 was appointed to the command of the said Brig, and continued the captain of her up to the time when the City of Charleston surrendered in May 1780 – This deponent is positively certain that the said William Hall was in the service and performed duty for at least three years as Captain of the said Brig *Notre Dame*. That he was engaged with the Naval Squadron then import in defending Fort Moultrie, at the time of the fall and after the surrender of Charleston, he became a prisoner of War, and was one among the Gentlemen who were sent to St. Augustine in August 1780. The said William Hall and this Deponent met in Philadelphia in the year 1782 in the early part of said year, where they both had been sent for the purpose of effecting an exchange of prisoners, to wit, the said William Hall from St. Augustine, and Deponent from the prison ship *Torbay* in Charleston. Deponent knows the fact of his own knowledge that the said William Hall was married in the spring of 1782, during his stay in Philadelphia, to Ann Wilson, is now a widow about to apply for a Pension under the Act of 4th of July 1836. Deponent further states that after Certificates of exchange were effected the said William Hall and his wife left Philadelphia and returned to Charleston. Deponent is acquainted with Mrs. Ann Hall, the widow of the said William Hall. That she now resides in Charleston, and has always resided therein, from the time she came from Philadelphia, and knows her to be the widow of said William Hall & that the said

² [Joseph Righton W22074](#)

William Hall departed this life in the year 1814.

S/ Jos. Righton

Philadelphia April 23rd, 1782

I certify that I this day joyned in Marriage Capt. William Hall & Ann Wilson, they having produced to me a license from the Honorable the Supreme executive Council. Witness my hand
S/ William White, Rector of Christ Church & St. Peters

Philadelphia, April 23, 1782.

I certify that I this day joyned in Marriage Capt. William Hall & Ann Wilson, they having produced to me a license from the Hon. the supreme executive Council. Witness my hand.

William White, Rector of Christ Church & St. Peters.

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$576 per annum commencing March 4th, 1844, for her husband's service as a Captain in the South Carolina Sea service.]